

APRIL 2011 INTERPRETIVE SCHEDULE



Friday, April 1, 2011

2:00 p.m. Hike – April Fools’ Day “Nature” Hike

1 Hour

Instructor: Ranger Steve Bier

Fee: Donations welcome

Join Professor Itchy Scratchy on this irreverent tour of the strange and wondrous “wildlife” in the Park. Be ready to have your funny bone tickled! Please bring binoculars and dress for cactus country. *Donations will benefit ABF’s Camp Borrego.* Call 760-767-4063 for details and registration.



Borrego Valley Hawkwatch Friday, April 1 – April 15, 2011



Join in the effort to count and observe migrating Swainson’s Hawks as they migrate from as far as Argentina through the Borrego Valley on a journey to breeding grounds throughout Western US, Canada and Alaska. Volunteers will be present at count sites every day this month through April 15th. For more information or to be added to a “watch list”, email Hal Cohen at raptorhal@cablusa.com.

Morning Count Site – To catch morning “lift-off”, meet on DiGiorgio Road (2.3 miles north of Palm Canyon Dr.) around 8:00 a.m.

Evening Count Site – Join counters one hour before sunset on Borrego Valley Road (1.5 miles north of Palm Canyon Drive) to watch hawks coming in to roost for the night.

Saturday, April 2, 2011

11:00 a.m. Junior Rangers

45 Minutes

Special program for children ages 7-12. Discover secrets of the desert environment. Sign up at the Visitor Center as space is limited.

UNLESS NOTED, ALL PROGRAMS ARE FREE OF CHARGE AND HELD AT THE VISITOR CENTER.

 DENOTES PROGRAMS ACCESSIBLE TO DISABLED. PLEASE CALL AHEAD FOR SPECIAL NEEDS ACCOMMODATION, (760) 767-4205.



DENOTES PROGRAMS OFFERED BY OUR COOPERATING ASSOCIATION, ANZA-BORREGO FOUNDATION. FUNDS SUPPORT INTERPRETATION AT ANZA-BORREGO DESERT STATE PARK. **DOGS ARE NOT PERMITTED ON TRAILS OR TOURS.**

APRIL 2011

INTERPRETIVE SCHEDULE



Saturday, April 2, 2011 (cont.)

1:00 p.m. Class ♿ – Introduction to Desert Stargazing

8 Hours

Instructor: Dennis Mammana

Fee: \$45 / \$35 for ABF members



Sights that boggle the mind are visible in the clear, dark desert skies each evening. This full-day workshop is designed for beginning stargazers interested in exploring the enjoyable and mind-expanding hobby of amateur astronomy. Evening hours will provide an opportunity to practice navigating the night sky and view some of its wonders through a large telescope. Call 760-767-4063 for details and registration.

2:00 p.m. Walk ♿ – Hardy Desert Survivors

45 Minutes

Join Certified Interpretive Guide Abby Barker as she introduces you to some unique and amazing hardy desert survivors in the garden, the desert plants. This is an easy walk around the Visitor Center garden. If the weather is too bad or hot, Abby will do a power point program in the Discovery Lab.

7:30 p.m. Campfire ♿ – Who are the Creatures In Your Neighborhood?

1 Hour

Diurnal, Nocturnal, Desert Life:

Relies on temperature to make livin' right!

Come to campfire with Ranger Steve,

Learn things about Desert Creatures you won't believe!

Sunday, April 3, 2011

10:00 a.m. Hike – Hidden Vista

1 Hour

Hike about ½ mile to the Bill Kenyon Overlook from Yaqui Pass Camp. We will explore the rocky habitat along the trail to reach the dramatic overlook. Take Yaqui Pass Road (S-3) and meet Ranger Jeri Zemon at the far end of Yaqui Pass Camp (Mile Marker #2) at 10:00 a.m.

10:00 a.m. Walk – Milling Around Mine Wash

4 Hours

Instructor: Hank Barber

Fee: \$15 each



Join Certified Naturalist Hank Barber on this fascinating 2-mile hike around an ancient Kumeyaay village site at Mine Wash. See hundreds of bedrock mortars, slicks, basins and rubs. Includes stops for wildflower identification and discussions about how the desert Indians used plants for food, clothing, shelter and medicine. High clearance vehicles recommended. Call 760-767-4063 for details and registration.

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Sunday, April 3, 2011 (cont.)

11:00 a.m. Talk ♿ – The View From The “Bridge”

45 Minutes

Join Volunteer Naturalist Karen Cormier on the “Bridge” above the entrance to the Visitor Center for an introduction to Anza-Borrego Desert State Park and an overview of some of the park’s diverse natural, historical, cultural and recreational resources. View the desert landscape and observe many well-known landmarks, directions to take for drives or hikes, and become familiar with some native plants growing in the garden, and perhaps glimpse some desert wildlife.

Tuesday, April 5, 2011

7:30 a.m. Talk – The Borrego Hawk Watch Experience

1.5 Hours

Discover the hawk watch phenomenon with Volunteer Naturalist and hawk watcher Ann Keenan. Meet at the Visitor Center flagpole to caravan out to the site, observe hawk watchers on duty and, we hope, see migrating raptors. Bring binoculars, water, snacks, and appropriate clothing.



9:00 a.m. Walk ♿ – Culp Valley ADA Trail

2.5 Hours

Did you know that Anza-Borrego Desert State Park has a new wheelchair accessible trail? Come check it out. It climbs moderately through transitional habitat for about half a mile to an overlook. Bring water and a hat. Let’s find out what’s blooming. Meet Volunteer Naturalist Ted Caragozian at Culp Valley primitive camp (between mileposts 9 and 9.5 on Highway S-22).

Wednesday, April 6, 2011

8:00 a.m. Hike – Big Spring Ramble

2.5 Hours

Join Volunteer Naturalist Ted Caragozian to discover an oasis in the transition zone and see what’s blooming. Meet at the pullout at mile 11.2 on highway S-22 for an easy-paced walk to Big Spring in Tubb Canyon. Wear sturdy footwear, a hat, and carry water. This hike is rated moderate.

Thursday, April 7, 2011

8:00 a.m. Hike – Calcite Canyon Spectacular

3.5 Hours

Join Volunteer Naturalist Ted Caragozian and explore the sandstone canyon country around the Calcite Mine. You will follow the Middle Fork of Palm Wash up over some small dry falls to a slot canyon, check out the mine, and return by way of the road. Meet at the Calcite Mine Road, Mile Marker 38.1 east on Highway S-22. Extra parking is available at Mile Marker 38. Wear sturdy footwear, a hat, and carry water. This hike is rated strenuous.

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Thursday, April 7, 2011 (cont.)

8:00 a.m. Hike – Roving Naturalist in Borrego Palm Canyon

3 Hours

Volunteer Naturalist Ann Keenan will be roaming the Borrego Palm Canyon Trail searching for bighorn sheep and other interesting features along the trail. Look for her in her volunteer vest as you hike to the palm oasis. This is not a guided hike.

Friday, April 8, 2011

8:00 a.m. Hike – West Butte

3 Hours

Join Volunteer Naturalists Mary Ekelund and Paul Larson for a moderate 3-mile (round trip) hike to the top of one of our smaller peaks, but with great views! There will be some walking on narrow ridges and scrambling on rocks toward the summit. Meet just off Highway #78 at the intersection with Buttes Pass Road, 1.5 miles east of Borrego Springs Road.

12:00 p.m. Talk – Tailgate Tours

1 Hour

Join the only CA state park pilot, Ranger Kelly McCague, for a special presentation about her responsibilities and see the plane up close. Program will meet and be conducted at the Borrego Springs Airport. Take Palm Canyon Drive east from Christmas Circle to S22. The airport is on the left.

Saturday, April 9, 2011

7:30 a.m. Walk ♿ – Beginner's Bird Walk

1.5 Hours

Join Volunteer Naturalist Ann Keenan for a walk around the Visitor Center vicinity looking for the common birds of our desert. All birding levels welcome. Meet in the Visitor Center parking lot. Please bring binoculars. Rain cancels.

7:30 p.m. Campfire ♿ – Butterfield Overland Mail

1 Hour

Join Ranger Dennis at the Borrego Palm Canyon Campfire Center for an evening campfire program about the Butterfield Overland Mail.

ARCHAEOLOGY WEEKEND

Saturday and Sunday, April 9-10, 2011

LECTURES—DISPLAYS—FIELD TRIPS—NATIVE AMERICAN CRAFTS
DEMONSTRATIONS—ACTIVITIES FOR KIDS—ARCHAEOLOGY LAB TOURS

Look for a flyer at the Visitor Center for more information.

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INTERPRETIVE SCHEDULE



Sunday, April 10, 2011

10:00 a.m. Tailgate Tour – Oriflamme Canyon

1 Hour

Meet Ranger Don at the entrance to Oriflamme Canyon south on S-2 for a special presentation about the amazing history of this region.

Saturday, April 16, 2011

8:00 a.m. Hike – Follow the Flowers: Lost Valley PCT

8 Hours

Instructors: Paul Larson and Hank Barber Fee: \$20 / \$15 for ABF members



Hike with Volunteer Naturalists Paul and Hank about 7 miles on a beautiful wooded section of the Pacific Crest Trail that offers views of boulder-dotted hills, while passing through Coulter pines, oak trees and chaparral. As the weather gets warmer, we are following the flowers from the desert floor, to rocky canyons, and then to rolling hills. Catch the blooms before they're gone on this higher-elevation adventure! Wear sturdy footwear, a hat, and carry water. This hike is moderately strenuous. Call 760-767-4063 for details and registration.

9:00 a.m. Hike – Roving Naturalist in Borrego Palm Canyon

3 Hours

Volunteer Naturalist Bonnie Clapp will be roaming the Borrego Palm Canyon Trail searching for bighorn sheep and other interesting features along the trail. Look for her as you hike to the palm oasis. This is not a guided hike.

10:00 a.m. Class – California Cane Arrow-Making

6 Hours

Instructor: Tony Soares

Fee: \$65 / \$55 for ABF members



For more than 2000 years, the native people of the Desert Southwest constructed composite arrows from carrizo cane, hardwood, stone, sinew, and feathers. In this hands-on class, instructor Tony Soares will teach the techniques to make these lightweight and fast-flying arrows, used for hunting and defensive purposes. Soares will teach arrow straightening, flint knapping, fletching, and discuss bows and atlatls. Call 760-767-4063 for details and registration.


11:00 a.m. Junior Rangers

45 Minutes

Special program for children ages 7-12. Discover secrets of the desert environment. Sign up at the Visitor Center as space is limited.



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Saturday, April 16, 2011 (cont.)

5:00 p.m. Hike – Sunset/Moonlight Hike

4 Hours

Join Volunteer Naturalists Ted Caragozian and Paul Larson for a desert hike to enjoy the sunset over the mountains and return under the nearly full moon to get a different perspective of the desert at a surprise location. Bring warm clothes and a flashlight (to be used only if necessary). Limited to 15 participants – please sign up at the Visitor Center and include your phone number to receive meeting details.

7:30 p.m. Campfire ♿ – Ranger Surprise

1 Hour

Join Ranger Josh at the Borrego Palm Canyon Campfire Center for an evening campfire program.

Sunday, April 17, 2011

9:00 a.m. Tailgate Tour – Borrego Palm Canyon

1 Hour

Meet Ranger Steve at the Alternate Trail in Borrego Palm Canyon for a program on Big Horn Sheep.

11:00 a.m. Talk ♿ - Armchair Roving Palm Canyon

45 Minutes

Join Volunteer Naturalist Bonnie Clapp for a Rove up Palm Canyon without leaving your chair. Bonnie will introduce you to some of the wonders that make Palm Canyon the most popular hike in Anza Borrego Desert State Park. Meet in the Visitor Center Discovery Lab.

Monday, April 18, 2011

9:00 a.m. Walk ♿ – Culp Valley ADA Trail

2.5 Hours

Did you know that Anza-Borrego Desert State Park has a new wheelchair accessible trail? Come check it out. It climbs moderately through transition habitat for about half a mile to an overlook. Let's find out what's blooming. Meet Volunteer Naturalist Ted Caragozian at Culp Valley primitive camp (near milepost 9 on Highway S-22).

11:00 a.m. Junior Rangers ♿

45 Minutes

Special program for children ages 7-12. Discover secrets of the desert environment. Sign up at the Visitor Center as space is limited.

12:00 p.m. Talk ♿ – Solar Cooking Demonstration

1 Hour

Solar energy - the old/new technology. Volunteer Naturalist Eleanor Shimeall demonstrates solar oven cooking and explains why this technology is so important. Meet at the Nierenberg Amphitheater outside the Visitor Center.

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INTERPRETIVE SCHEDULE



Tuesday, April 19, 2011

9:00 a.m. Hike – Culp Valley Walkabout

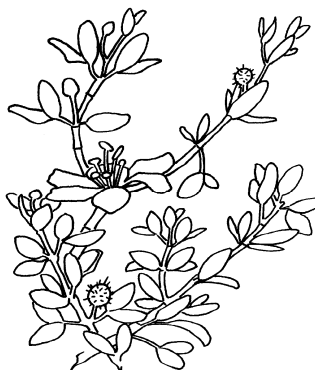
2.5 Hours

Join Volunteer Naturalist Ted Caragozian for a walkabout in Culp Valley and experience Pena Spring and the habitat it creates. Then follow a section of the Riding and Hiking Trail to an outstanding overlook before looping back to the start. Meet at the entrance to Culp Valley Campground between Mile Markers 9 and 9.5 on highway S-22. This hike is rated moderate.

11:00 a.m. Junior Rangers ♿

45 Minutes

Special program for children ages 7-12. Discover secrets of the desert environment. Sign up at the Visitor Center as space is limited.



1:00 p.m. Walk ♿ – Desert Scents

1 Hour

Enjoy an easy stroll through the visitor center garden with Volunteer Naturalist Ingrid Coffin. Use your senses on this plant exploration program that meets at the entrance to the Visitor Center.

Wednesday, April 20, 2011

8:00 a.m. Hike – Lute Fault

2.5 Hours

Earthquake geology, local history and desert plant life will be the focus of this hike. Meet Volunteer Naturalist Ted Caragozian at the call box across from Thimble Trail on S-22 at Mile Marker 31.9. Bring water and sturdy shoes for this 2-3 mile round trip hike on uneven ground.

11:00 a.m. Junior Rangers ♿

45 Minutes

Special program for children ages 7-12. Discover secrets of the desert environment. Sign up at the Visitor Center as space is limited.

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Thursday, April 21, 2011

8:00 a.m. Hike – Mine Wash Vista

4 Hours

Join Volunteer Naturalists Mary Ekelund and Paul Larson on a drive back into Mine Wash where we will continue on foot for a 4-mile round trip hike with ever-changing sights around each bend. We will need to climb a couple of 4-foot dry waterfalls on our way to a spectacular view of Shelter Valley. Be sure to bring the usual water, hat, and sturdy footwear. Meet at the beginning of Mine Wash Road, 2.7 miles east of the Tamarisk Grove intersection on Highway 78.

11:00 a.m. Junior Rangers ♿

45 Minutes

Special program for children ages 7-12. Discover secrets of the desert environment. Sign up at the Visitor Center as space is limited.



Friday, April 22, 2011

8:30 a.m. Hike – Hornblende Canyon

4 Hours

Meet Volunteer Naturalists Mike and Jan Bigelow at Mile 26.1 on S2 (just past the Box Canyon Historical Monument) to explore this canyon. This is a 3.6 mile fairly strenuous hike where we will be rewarded by seeing spring wildflowers, the large Mason Valley Cholla and hornblende rocks. Bring good walking shoes, hat, and water.

11:00 a.m. Junior Rangers ♿

45 Minutes

Special program for children ages 7-12. Discover secrets of the desert environment. Sign up at the Visitor Center as space is limited.

Saturday, April 23, 2011

7:30 a.m. Walk ♿ – Beginner's Bird Walk

1.5 Hours

Join Volunteer Naturalist Ann Keenan for a walk around the vicinity of the Visitor Center looking for the common birds of our desert. All birding levels welcome. Meet in the Visitor Center parking lot. Please bring binoculars. Rain cancels.

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Saturday, April 23, 2011 (cont.)

8:00 a.m. Hike – Pinyon Ridge

7 Hours

Join Naturalists Ted Caragozian and Paul Larson for a moderately strenuous hike in the higher country with some great views and wildflowers. Meet at the Visitor Center Parking Lot. Four-wheel drive (or all-wheel drive) is mandatory with some carpooling available.

9:00 a.m. Hike – Roving Naturalist in Borrego Palm Canyon

3 Hours

Volunteer Naturalist Bonnie Clapp will be roaming the Borrego Palm Canyon Trail searching for bighorn sheep and other interesting features along the trail. Look for her as you hike to the palm oasis. This is not a guided hike.

10:00 a.m. Talk ♿ – In Search of the Elusive Elephant Tree

30 Minutes

The seldom seen, endangered elephant tree survives in only a few scattered and isolated spots in California. Join Volunteer Naturalist Karen Cormier at the Visitor Center to find out how to identify these distinctive trees, hear why Native Americans valued the trees, and discover where you can look for elephant tree herds “in the wild”.

11:00 a.m. Junior Rangers ♿

45 Minutes

Special program for children ages 7-12. Discover secrets of the desert environment. Sign up at the Visitor Center as space is limited.

7:00 p.m. Lecture ♿ – Saturn: Lord of the Rings

2 Hours

Instructor: Dennis Mammana

Suggested Donation: \$5.00



Popular astronomer and syndicated columnist Dennis Mammana will enlighten and inspire us with the mysteries of the cosmos. Saturn is often regarded as the most stunning planet of our solar system, and now that it's near its closest to us, it's even more spectacular! Join us for a close-up look at this remarkable world, its rings and its family of moons, and discover what we're learning from spacecraft orbiting nearby. Lecture is followed by telescope viewing, weather permitting. Dress warmly and bring a blanket and flashlight with red covering to the Nierenberg Plaza at ABDSP Visitor Center. *No registration required.* Call 760-767-4063 for details.

7:30 p.m. Campfire ♿ – Wildflowers of Anza-Borrego

1 Hour

Explore the beauty of the desert in bloom! From fields of annuals to colorful washes to brilliant cacti, flowers abound as the desert comes alive in the spring! Join Ranger Nicole at the Borrego Palm Canyon Campfire Center.



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Monday, April 25, 2011

11:00 a.m. Junior Rangers ♿

45 Minutes

Special program for children ages 7-12. Discover secrets of the desert environment. Sign up at the Visitor Center as space is limited.

Tuesday, April 26, 2011

11:00 a.m. Junior Rangers ♿

45 Minutes

Special program for children ages 7-12. Discover secrets of the desert environment. Sign up at the Visitor Center as space is limited.

1:00 p.m. Walk ♿ – Desert Scents

1 Hour

Enjoy an easy stroll through the visitor center garden with Volunteer Naturalist Ingrid Coffin. Use your senses on this plant exploration program that meets at the Visitor Center entrance.

Wednesday, April 27, 2011

11:00 a.m. Junior Rangers ♿

45 Minutes

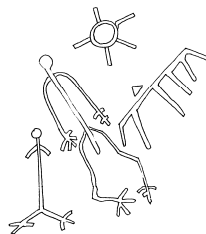
Special program for children ages 7-12. Discover secrets of the desert environment. Sign up at the Visitor Center as space is limited.

Thursday, April 28, 2011

8:00 a.m. Hike – Pictographs – What Were They Trying to Say?

2.5 Hours

Join Volunteer Naturalists Paul Larson and Mary Ekelund on a moderate 3-mile round-trip hike through a beautiful desert valley to a panoramic overlook. Along the way, we will look at some interesting plants, morteros and rock art. Meet at the entrance to Blair Valley, about a 45 minute drive from the Visitor Center.



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Thursday, April 28, 2011 (cont.)

9:30 a.m. Tailgate Tour – Culp Valley

1 Hour

Ranger Rodriguez talks about why this area is one of her favorites in the park. Learn a bit of the history of the area and enjoy the beautiful views! Meet at Paroli Camp in Culp Valley. Take Hwy.S-22 west, up the Montezuma Grade; halfway up the mountain the road becomes two lanes, take the left lane and look for the “Culp Valley Road” sign and turn left onto the dirt road. Follow this road west and take the left fork in the road.

11:00 a.m. Junior Rangers ♿

45 Minutes

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Friday, April 29, 2011

11:00 a.m. Junior Rangers ♿

45 Minutes

Special program for children ages 7-12. Discover secrets of the desert environment. Sign up at the Visitor Center as space is limited.

Saturday, April 30, 2011

7:30 a.m. Walk ♿ - Beginner's Bird Walk

1.5 Hours

Join Volunteer Naturalist Ann Keenan for a walk around the Visitor Center vicinity looking for the common birds of our desert. All birding levels welcome. Meet in the Visitor Center parking lot. Please bring binoculars. Rain cancels.

11:00 a.m. Junior Rangers ♿

45 Minutes

Special program for children ages 7-12. Discover secrets of the desert environment. Sign up at the Visitor Center as space is limited.

7:30 p.m. Campfire ♿ – Bats of Borrego and Beyond

1 Hour

Bats are in the air, everywhere! Find out why these mysterious night flyers are disappearing and how you can help protect them. Meet Ranger Jeri Zemon at the Borrego Palm Canyon Campfire Center for an evening campfire program.



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DESERT SAFETY

✓ **Carry water AND drink it**

Saving your water for the hike back has led to death in Anza-Borrego. Drink plenty of water before you leave home, while you hike, and on the return route. If you feel thirsty, it is already too late. Drink lots of water and drink often.

✓ **Make sure your vehicle is desert-ready.**

Equip your vehicle for the desert. You should always carry extra water, a shade tarp, a shovel, a tire pump, and extra food.

✓ **Prepare yourself.**

In addition to carrying water, you should have protective clothing, sunscreen, a hat, a good map, food and a first aid kit which includes a comb and tweezers.

✓ **Have a plan.**

Leave all your trip information with a friend. Tell him/her your destination, the route you intend to follow, your expected return time, a description of your vehicle with license plate number, and the time by which he/she should notify park authorities in case you do not return.

✓ **Do not split up the group**

Stay together. Never leave anyone behind to rest.

✓ **Leave snakes alone.**

Many venomous snakes live in the desert. If you threaten them, they may strike. It is illegal to harass, catch, or kill any snake within Anza-Borrego. If bitten, remain calm and seek immediate medical attention.

✓ **When emergencies happen ...**

Stop. Stay calm. Seek shelter. If you are with your vehicle, remain there; do not leave it. Signal with mirrors, white cloth, whistle (three short blasts on a whistle, pause, then three more, repeat frequently), and put your hood up. It is much easier to find a vehicle in the desert than a person!!!

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